

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: IT, UR, US
SUBJECT: IZVESTIYA ATTACKS AMBASSADOR GARDNER

REF: ROME 3798

1. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY'S UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF ARTICLE FROM IZVESTIYA CORRESPONDENT IN ROME, A. KRIVOPALOV, THAT APPEARED IN INSIDE PAGES OF FEB. 28 IZVESTIYA. ARTICLE IS ENTITLED "GARDNER IS WORRIED."
2. BEGIN QUOTE: FOR THE SECOND TIME DURING THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS IN HIS HOST COUNTRY, THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO ITALY, RICHARD GARDNER, HAS LEFT FOR WASHINGTON "FOR CONSULTATIONS."
3. FOR A LONG TIME THE AMERICAN DIPLOMAT CARRIED ON ACTIVITY, BORDERING ON OPEN INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF ITALY. SO, HIS STATEMENT THAT HE "HAS NO INTENTION TO BE THE U.S. AMBASSADOR RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SELL-OUT OF ITALY TO THE COMMUNISTS" WAS RECEIVED WITH INDIGNATION IN THE COUNTRY. HE FOUND IT PROPER TO

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CHARACTERIZE TO THE PRESS VARIOUS TRENDS IN THE CHRISTIAN-DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN ORDER TO SHOW WHO THE U.S. PREFERS.

4. RECENTLY THE AMBASSADOR DELIVERED A LECTURE TO THE INDUSTRIALISTS OF TORINO IN WHICH HE, WITH A PRO-CON-SUL'S AIR OF SELF-IMPORTANCE, ADVISED ABOUT METHODS TO SOLVE THE COUNTRY'S INTERNAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND,

ACCORDING TO "LA STAMPA", AGAIN DEMONSTRATED HIS ANTI-COMMUNIST AMBITIONS.

5. NATURALLY, A MAN WITH SUCH CONVICTIONS IS CONCERNED WITH THE SUCCESS OF THE LEFT FORCES IN ITALY. ONE WONDERS IF GARDNER RECEIVES WASHINGTON'S BLESSINGS FOR NEW FORMS OF BLACKMAIL AND PRESSURE INADMISSIBLE IN THE NORMAL RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO SOVEREIGN STATES. END QUOTE. TOON

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